



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

EO-176
KB

Section of Environmental Analysis

October 15, 2004

Mr. Mike Hamlett
Miles City Public Library
1 South 10th Street
Miles City, MT 59301

Dear Mr. Hamlett:

The Surface Transportation Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is pleased to provide you with the enclosed Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Draft SEIS) for the Tongue River Railroad Company's proposed 17.3 mile rail line construction in Rosebud and Big Horn Counties, Montana, known as Tongue River III, and also referred to as the proposed Western Alignment. You have previously agreed to keep a copy of this document in the Miles City Public Library for the public to review during the 45-day comment period, which ends on December 6, 2004.

The Draft SEIS discusses the potential environmental impacts that could result from the construction and operation of the proposed Western Alignment and includes SEA's preliminary recommendations for mitigating possible environmental effects.

Thank you for your assistance in the environmental review process. If you would like additional information or have any questions, please contact me at (202) 565-1554.

Sincerely,

Kenneth H. Blodgett
Environmental Protection Specialist
Section of Environmental Analysis